

## ABSTRACT

An extensible definition of data exchanged between logical layered components of different platform hardware interfaces for management, configuration, and alerts and systems and methods for using same is disclosed. One embodiment is a mechanism for self-describing hardware and firmware components. An embodiment of the present invention is a system and method relating to a binary data definition and generic parser mechanism which allows efficient and runtime extensible definition of data exchanged between logical layered components of different platform hardware interfaces for management/configuration/alerting as well as providing generic basic input-output system (“BIOS”) and firmware data formats.